

The Potential Effects of General Anaesthesia in any Surgery for patients with MLD

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Over the last 25 years, there has been anecdotal evidence that General Anaesthesia can cause degeneration in sufferers of MLD. No studies have been carried out, but MLD Support Association UK would be happy to support such a study. In the meantime suggestions for Clinicians are:

- Record when MLD patients have anaesthesia and note the effects
- Question associated problems
- Ensure Anaesthetist is aware of the diagnosis of MLD
- Anaesthetists should use the same Anaesthesia as that used for Head injury patients
- Use Local Anaesthesia where possible
- Explore the use of pre-meds
- Do not use gaseous forms of sedation.

Parents and Care-Givers should:

- Question the frequency of General Anaesthesia and note adverse effects
- Avoid gas anaesthesia
- Ensure the smallest amount of anaesthesia for the least amount of time is used
- Use Local Anaesthesia where possible
- Ensure Anaesthetist is aware of the diagnosis MLD and advise them to use the same Anaesthesia as that used for Head injury patients
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It was noted that studies in the use of in the use of gas Anaesthesia in rats is in progress